

SIAM AND ITS NEW KING



SIAM'S CORONATION CEREMONY

THE coronation ceremonies attending the ascension of the throne of his majesty, Maa Vajiravudh, Phra "Mongkut" Kiao, king of Siam, which have just been completed, set another milestone in the rapid march which Siam is making, and which has astonished the nations of the world. The fact that the great powers sent members of their royal families to represent them at the coronation is an evidence of the interest and respect which they have for Siam.

Unostentatiously, without upheaval, but with amazing speed, the Siamese picked up the progressive ideas and inventions of the western powers, and today a foreigner who journeys to Bangkok, the capital of the nation, will find there railways, street cars, large electric light and gas plants, telephone service, in fact all of the best features of modern civilization.

The new monarch, who has ascended the throne under the most favorable circumstances, takes up his reign in the year 130, according to the reckoning of the Siamese, who reckon the years from the establishment of the national capital of Bangkok. Their New Year's day falls on April 1 of the Gregorian calendar. Among the special ambassadors sent to Siam for the coronation were: His serene highness Prince Alexander of Teck, and his suite, representing Great Britain; his imperial highness the Grand Duke Boris and suite, Russia; his royal highness Prince Waldemar and his three sons, Denmark; his royal highness Prince William, duke of Södermanland, and suite, Sweden; his highness Prince Fuhimi and suite, Japan, and his royal highness Prince Nicholas, Greece.

Much of the credit for the rapid development of Siam is due to the late king, Chulalongkorn, Phra Chula Chom Klao, who was a man of much ability and who took the lead in the adoption of the best features of the western civilization. One matter which his late majesty insisted upon was the education of the people of Siam, and the new monarch is proceeding along the same line. In consequence a system of public schools has been established throughout the kingdom and is maintained on a high plane.

The late king sent his son, who is now on the throne, to England, where he went through the military academy at Sandhurst and was attached for two years to an English regiment. He then studied at Christ's college, Oxford. For many years it has been the practice of Siam to send 30 or 40 young men to European countries and to the United States to be educated. As fast as they receive an education they are recalled to Siam and their places filled by others. Upon these men is falling a large share of the work in modernizing the kingdom according to western ideas.

The government of Siam is a benevolent despotism. The steps which have been taken for the benefit of the people and for the development of the country have all originated with the king and the nobility. The various departments of the government, such as the foreign office, the department of the interior, the war department, the department of justice, are entrusted to members of the ministry, who are selected by the king with great care.

While Siam is properly called a despotism and the authority of the king is absolute and is handed down from father to son in the royal family, the unusual social system of Siam may be said to be all born free and equal, with the exception of the members of the royal family. There is, to be sure, nobility. But no man is born a nobleman. No title descends from father to son, except in the royal family. The son of a nobleman must prove himself worthy of nobility before he attains that rank. And nobility is won only because of merit and of good work performed. In the case of the brothers of the king their sons do not receive the same title as their fathers, but are one degree lower in rank, and their sons, in turn, are one degree lower in rank than their fathers, unless by merit they may attain the higher rank. Thus the descendants of the royal princes may ultimately become the same as the rest of the people. There are five ranks of nobility.

The population of Siam has been estimated at about 9,000,000, and the area of the country is about the same

as that of France. The Siamese are a different race from either the Chinese or the Japanese. Their straight black hair and dark eyes give the Siamese some resemblance to the Japanese, but their eyes are straight and the general expression of the Siamese countenance is more that of a European.

The capital, Bangkok, is a handsome city of some 700,000 inhabitants. The street cars, the street lighting, telephone system and modern sanitation all give the impression of a modern western city. The style of architecture is being more and more modeled after the western style and particularly the Italian. Their houses are many of them similar to the detached houses which are found in the suburbs of cities in this country. The dress adopted by the people is western to a great extent also. In the public schools the only foreign language taught is English, which is the commercial language of the far east. Although the religion of the Siamese is Buddhism, the government makes no objection to such foreign missions as are established in Siam, particularly because many of the schools established by the missions teach English. The late king, just before he died, requested his son not to spend large sums of money upon a great funeral for him, but to spend such money as he desired to devote to the memory of his father for the benefit of charitable institutions. The present king has voluntarily surrendered about \$650,000 from his civil list for the benefit of the government.

The Siamese are a peaceable people, but they are also intensely patriotic. The army system there is very similar to that of Germany, and each young man is compelled to serve his three years in the standing army and then enter the reserves. None of the Siamese shirks this duty. A splendid standing army of 30,000 men is maintained, well equipped and well drilled, and should be able to give a good account of itself.

As an evidence of the consideration which the English and other foreigners have for the Siamese extrajudicial courts, such as are maintained in China and other far eastern countries, are not maintained there. When a British subject commits an offense in Siam he is tried in a Siamese court and under the laws of that land. Not a foreign soldier is maintained in Siam by any of the nations as a guard for the legation there, but the protection of the European representatives is left entirely to the Siamese police.

The railroads in Siam are owned by the government, with the exception of a few short spur lines. The government has found these roads a good investment, paying about seven per cent. Siam is remarkably free from public debt, owing only about \$5,000,000, most of which was borrowed to construct railroads and other public improvements.

Siam is primarily an agricultural country, and among her principal exports are rice, tea and hides. There are rich mineral resources in the country, many of which have not yet been developed. Including oil, tin and gold. The country has a stable monetary system based on a gold standard.

The quality of labor is very limited in Siam, and, in fact, many Chinese laborers are employed in the rice fields and other industries. There is no emigration from Siam.

Llamas as Carriers in Peru. A great deal of engineering work is being carried out in the interior of Peru, and many of the roads it is necessary to transport material on pack animals, generally llamas. These animals carry about one hundred pounds at a time and work in herds of about one hundred. The animals seem to have their own notions about the size of the load which they should carry and the speed with which they should cover the ground, and nothing will induce them to exceed this. The animals also look for an occasional respite from labor, and the rule is to give each animal a week's rest after two weeks of work.

His Pace. Mary—Easy going, is he? Alice—Goodness, yes! Half an hour from hat-rack to front door.—Harper's Bazar.

TUDORS' WORK GOOD

Tunnels Built Centuries Ago Are Still in Existence.

Newly Discovered Underground Workings Built by Order of Cardinal Wolsey Are Found to Be in Perfect Condition.

That the Tudors were the best plumbers in the world is attested by the fact that a tunnel built four centuries ago by Cardinal Wolsey and through which water was conveyed from a spring by means of lead pipes is still in existence. It is not only in existence, but is in practically as good condition as when it was first constructed. What good building this means may be understood when it is noted that directly over the tunnel huge trees are growing—one of them with at least five tons of timber in it—but neither their roots nor their weight have made any impression at all upon its walls.

Not so eternal have been the means whereby Wolsey had the water conveyed from Kingston hill to Hampton court. After it had made its way through a succession of wells and reservoirs, which still retain the old lead and stone, the water was taken down the hill in broad lead pipes and so on to Hampton. But, alas! it could not be protected from rapacious hands after it had served the great cardinal's purpose, for lead has a value for other and more harmful things than the conveyance of spring water. So as soon as Hampton court ceased to depend for its drinking water upon the cardinal's spring pipe began to lay sacrilegious hands on the pipes. A considerable amount of the lead was, it is believed, melted down for ammunition during the civil war. The rest has been pilfered from time to time for various purposes, and some of it is said even now to be lying at the bottom of the Thames.

Both the old buildings and the spring itself are still almost as they



Tunnel Constructed 400 Years Ago.

were when the cardinal had completed his work of carrying the water in leaden pipes all the way from the top of Kingston hill to his new home. Hitherto few people save the personal friends of the present owner have known of the existence of these remnants of the great man's enterprise, but a wonderful glimpse into the past is to be obtained by any one privileged to open the fast shut door of the tunnel and descend into the subterranean wonderland.

Lacked His Trick Bible.

New York.—How he fooled a jury and won his freedom with the aid of a Bible was told by George McAllister, eighteen years old, in general sessions, where he was arraigned before Judge Rosaksky for the second time in three months on the charge of burglary.

McAllister was tried last September, and as he ascended the witness stand in his own defense at that time he took a Bible from his pocket and asked that he might be sworn upon it, and not upon the court Bible. "Because it was given to me by mother, and she lived up to what it contains," he explained.

McAllister denied the charge of burglary, and the jury acquitted him. When McAllister again was arraigned, Assistant District Attorney Deleahanty recognized him and asked: "Got your Bible with you today?" "None," replied McAllister. "They got me right this time. I plead guilty." He was remanded for sentence.

Yale Gets Three-Eyed Reptile.

New Haven, Conn.—Henry D. East, Yale, 1898, American consul in Hobart, Tasmania, who already has sent several collections to the Yale university museum, has added another collection of birds and reptiles almost entirely extinct on the globe. The collection was gathered in New Zealand. It includes a specimen of a wingless bird called the kiwi and of a reptile of the lizard type called a tuatara, remarkable as having a rudimentary third eye.

The museum, soon is to mount a part of a dinosaur discovered by Prof. O. C. Marsh, and representing a reptile, which in life was probably 100 feet long. The fossil is much larger than corresponding parts of a dinosaur already partly mounted, which was sixty-seven feet long.

Stared Her in the Face.

Chicago.—That waist just seemed to stare up at me from the counter and beg me to take it along. This was the only explanation given the police by Mrs. Emma Drolette, when arrested for shoplifting.

By a vote of 222 to 208 the English House of Commons has rejected the conciliation bill, which was before the House on its second reading. The measure aimed at conferring the right to vote upon every woman possessed of the household qualification, and would enfranchise 1,000,000 women.

An edition of Isaac Walton's "Complete Angler," printed in London in 1653, brought \$3850 at an auction sale in New York.

A Girl of Yesterday

By Martha McCulloch Williams

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"It's no use—not the least," Dora said despondently, though her lips curled faintly. "Wear that thing to the Marston! I won't. That's flat. I don't expect, of course, to have things like other girls—but this once—well, it seems to me, if father—"

"Shut up!" Prudence, her elder, worn and worried, said imperatively. "Nag me all you want to, but leave father out. The salt of the earth—that's what he is—so good I don't see how he can have a dirty, flighty child such as you."

Dora was used to such stately amenities. There were just the two of them—father did not count. Unlucky, mild, the soul of honor, he had a talent for losing whatever he ventured, so had ceased from venturing—not quite voluntarily, to be sure. Squire Hoxley, his wife's father, had tied up his daughter's portion, so it inured solely to the benefit of the two girls. It was safely invested—so safely the income was mighty slender. Hence the chaffings of Dora—and Prudence's careworn face.

Prudence loved her father passionately—because she understood him. The fine fibre that made it impossible for him to be shrewd and money-making seemed to her the most wonderful thing in the world. She petted him undemonstratively—chiefly in the way of cooking what he liked, exactly as he liked it. Further, she made Dora keep the peace—mainly by giving the young lady much more than was equitably hers. But she had refused the new party dress, firmly, and spent herself on refurbishing an old one. Dora had already spent much more than her share of the joint income—and Prudence was bent upon buying her father a new greatcoat—he had needed one for two winters at least.

Commonly, she either coaxed Dora out of the sulks, or ended them by herself giving in. This time she did neither. Instead, she nonchalantly took up her shears, saying over her



"Give it to her and welcome."

shoulder, "If you are so set against this dress, I know a girl that'll be glad to have it. It only needs a little shortening and a bit off the waist measure to make it fit Elinor Lee—"

"She shan't have it—it's my dress—even if I don't mean to wear it," Dora flashed out. "Hateful thing! She'd feel fine as Friday—though she knew everybody was laughing at her, because she had on my cast-off clothes."

"You don't want them to laugh at her, I suppose," Prudence said argumentatively.

Dora gave her a withering look, saying, "You know I don't want her to go. She's so uppish, and forward, always pushing herself into everything."

"I say she's nice—always trying to help along. Tastes differ," Prudence countered loftily, still clutching the shears. "As you say, this is your frock. Wonder if I haven't got something that might do for Elinor?" There's my graduating dress—you turn up your nose at it—but those old-fashioned russet silks are coming back again."

"Give it to her and welcome—if she comes in it, she will be worse than a laughing stock," Dora said, scowling.

Prudence turned sharply on her. "You're my blood—whether or no," she said. "Don't let a bean, more or less, make you so mean and hateful. You're afraid Elinor will cut you out with Tazewell Gray. I hope she won't—be the best chance you'll ever have—but you won't get him by being so despicable. You have eyes that see deeper than a pretty face—even if it is yours."

"Yet—you won't help me," Dora mumbled, hiding her eyes. "You know how particular he is—that's why I must have something new—"

"You can't! That's the word with the bark on it," Prudence retorted. "But if you'll be sensible, I'll drape my lace shawl over this green satin—and then nobody will know it isn't new—right straight from the city."

It was an enormous sacrifice—made in the interest of peace and matrimony. Dora knew it—the lace shawl was, next to her conscience, Prudence's most cherished possession, an heirloom, fine and costly, descended

ed from a great grandmother, to whom fine and costly things were not rare. It would give distinction to any frock. Instantly, Dora was smiling. She even patted her sister's hand, saying, "Oh, but you are clever, Prue. I won't be naughty again for a whole month."

Then the two fell to work, with the result that Prudence had time next day to fit the russet silk to light, pretty Elinor Lee—and feel more than rewarded by the girl's shy yet genuine gratitude.

"You—you are—better than a fairy godmother," Miss Prue, she said. "Because this beautiful frock won't turn to rags even if I do dance on past 12 o'clock."

The Marston dance reached almost the dignity of a ball. Dora was easily the belle of it—tall and dashing, vivid in color, mobile of face, she caught every eye. The transfused green satin became her as no other gown had ever done. It swathed her slender, curving shape modestly, yet alluringly. Because she knew she was looking her best, she was at her best—until the unexpected happened.

Elinor was unaccountably late in coming. Truth to tell, she had come long before the rest, and spent the interval in helping kind Mrs. Marston with the fine, last details of supper. She had been wise enough to rest afterward—even to sleep a little while. As a result she came among the dancers dewy-eyed, and as rosy fresh as the flowers upon her frock. They had held color, and showed finely against a ground once white but now the softest cream. The low bodice had a lace collar at the throat, and at the top of it was caught up in front with a knot of real pink roses. Tiny ruffles

stuffed over the foot of the full skirt. Truly, Elinor's feet, beneath, "like little mice, played in and out." Her mass of fair, wavy hair, simply parted, and coiled low, went beautifully with the gown's lines. Altogether, she was a picture, the sweetest picture in all the world to one pair of eyes—Tazewell Gray's eyes.

He had hung about Dora half a year, all the while conscious of Elinor's attraction. Commonly he had seen her in the world of workaday—a fragment of the huge machine known as public education. Rosy and rose-beset, he knew her for what she was—the woman of all the world to fill and crown his life.

He strode toward her, forgetting all else. But before he came to her, Allan Muir had whisked her off in a waltz. Indeed, for a full hour he could not get near her. Outblowing the roses of yesterday, she put even Dora in the shade. Partners, the most flirty, the most eligible, swarmed about her—her card was full in a twinkling. By way of keeping the peace she even parted dances between the young fellows she knew best.

Tazewell would have no such partnership. Audaciously, in the face of an eager partner, he drew Elinor out on the piazza to say:

"Girls of yesterday didn't flirt—you look like that—are you going to live up to it?"

"No—because I don't know how," Elinor murmured, drooping lightly toward him.

Then and there he kissed her—quite forgetting Dora.

FIND REST IN NEEDLEWORK

More Women Should Realize the Beneficial Effects Such Employment Has on the Nerves.

Not many realize what a restful effect needlework has on one, and it has this great advantage over books, that one is not lost to all around. One woman of artistic tastes goes to the museum and makes sketches of well-known pieces of art needlework and tapestry designs, and then sets to work to copy them. And the woman who would look charmingly picturesque well knows she is most fascinating sitting before a frame, with exquisite colored silks near her.

But this kind of needlework needs more thought than white work. As one sews, the thoughts come fast. One remembers one's grandmother, showing one how to put the needle in, and advising stroking the cotton under the hem neatly, when an impatient beginner would tie a knot. One also remembers the beautiful work she accomplished.

That strange and interesting woman, Princess Helene von Racowitza, in her memoirs, amusingly describes her first attempt at tailoring, with which she was delighted. And she says ever since her first success she has made all her own clothes, including lingerie. The princess must be a monument of patience and cleverness, because the making of gowns, in these days, is an art not lightly acquired.

Bandit Career Nipped in Bud.

An amusing tale of a would-be bandit comes from Belgium, Rene Tazewell, aged 15, clerk in an office in Brussels, was sent by his employer to bank \$160. His employer heard no more of him. A week later Rene, now an elegant and well-dressed youth, resident in a private hotel, astonished the manager of the house by rushing into his private room, brandishing a pistol in either hand, and offering the old-fashioned alternative of "Your money or your life." Fortunately, the manager was too quick for him, and the young brigand was disarmed. Tazewell confessed that he had spent his employer's money in purchasing a store of pistols, knives, etc., and had decided to rob the hotel-keeper in order to obtain further funds before setting out for California, there to live the life of a bandit.

Because he was despondent over the probable loss of his horse, disabled in an accident, Amos Bettriss, aged 50 years, a farmer who lives near the line between Stowe and Morrisville, attempted suicide by strychnine poisoning, but will probably recover.

The Chicago Y. M. C. A. has started an innovation in night schools by establishing classes for instruction in reading and writing in the back rooms of saloons.

FOR MRS. DRESSING TABLE

DOUBLE chins are said to disappear almost as if by magic when subjected to treatment with a set of little rollers, which are being used here for the first time. There is a tiny ivory and tortoise shell roller for rubbing away superfluous flesh under the chin and smoothing out the wrinkles which have a provoking way of making themselves visible in every young woman's face. This delicate toilet accessory must be manipulated with the utmost care. The set includes three rollers. Besides this one, which is the simplest of the three, there is a roller somewhat larger, supplied with a tortoise shell or amber handle and with four tiny ivory balls instead of the familiar cylinder. This quartette, working together, yet each having a rotary motion of its own, is supposed to change flesh into thin air or something equally invisible. The third in the set has two rollers, one being attached to each end of the tortoise shell handle. Each roller is designed to work on a special part of the face. A key to the working plan is enclosed in each box with the set, so that the amateur will have no difficulty whatever in managing the little cylinders and balls. And after she has learned the use of each she need not refer again to the chart.

There is a delightful new face cleanser which is less harmful to the finer skin than some of the soaps used by women and which, it is claimed, will accomplish the cleansing process quicker and more pleasantly than a water application. The cleansing liquid comes in two bottles, and they are to be mixed in the proportions of two of one to one of the other. The solution of which a smaller quantity is used is pinkish in color and has a clean, sweet odor. The other liquid looks like water. When the mixture has been made the face is cleansed with it by dipping a piece of absorbent cotton in the liquid and rubbing it gently all over the face. Cold cream applications are not so effective as the liquid cleanser.

A delicious cold cream intended for day use, one might say, to differentiate it from the cold creams put on at night to remove soil and wrinkles, comes in white jars and is a delicate pink in color. The cream is velvety smooth and has an exquisite odor. A little of it should be applied before the face powder is used. This keeps the skin smooth and protects it from the weather.

Instead of using face powder many women are now applying cold cream which has a becoming whitening effect and really is a substitute for the dry powder. The cream, it is claimed by the makers, has absolutely no grease in its composition. It has a flesh tint, and after it has been allowed to soak well into the pores of the skin the complexion looks pearly white and pink, yet does not have a powdered appearance. The cream comes in jars of different tints to match different complexions.

An eyebrow pencil is considered an important part of the modern toilet outfit. Imported pencils done up in long, thin silver or gilt tubes can be had in black or shades of brown, so that when deftly used the lines do not show conspicuously, while the eyebrow is effectively accentuated.

Triangular bottles of perfume are a novel importation from a French specialist in this line of toilet articles. The bottles are shaped differently for the different scents. There is a squat, wide bottle, tapering toward the top, which holds a deep amber liquid of rare fragrance and allurements. Another triangular bottle of blunter proportions is of a different perfume.

Many of the new street and auto coats have their collars and cuffs trimmed with velvet, corduroy, ratine, bengaline, braid or satin.

There seems to be no end to the designs in scarfs just now and the materials used also—satin, velvet and fur as well as lace and batiste.

The accordion plaited full, straight jabot is the very newest style of jabot and appears in black and white. Whether this will supersede the popular side ruffle remains to be seen.

Most fashionable materials are rich and heavy. Tailored costumes are made up of thick woolly goods and for suits and dresses even plush is used, with heavy chenille fringe as trimming.

A double row of buttons of embroidered silk outlined with button loops of silk on embroidery trim many of the smartest models from the neck down to the bottom of the skirt, or from the waist line down.

White Marabou the Fad.

In fancy feathers, tall military pom-poms are approved, and are worn in marabou, ostrich and coq. White marabou is the current fad.



OUR sketch illustrates a little home-made contrivance that will be much appreciated by many people as it is of service for keeping warm the early morning bedroom cup of tea that always suffers so unless the recipient happens to be quite ready for it. It was made with the aid of a square tin biscuit box, and as biscuit boxes are constructed in almost every conceivable size and shape it is not difficult to obtain one that will fit comfortably over a cup and saucer. For this tin, and fitting it exactly, a cover

Italy is to have its first subway. It will be built at Naples, and will cost \$5,790,000. The project is backed by private capital, which comes mainly from French sources. It is said that similar projects are being considered in regard to Genoa and Rome.

Robert Love Taylor, senior United States Senator from Tennessee, known to all the south as "Fiddling Bob," died on Sunday.

A New Rochelle girl recently took part in an elopement scene for a moving picture company. Now the young woman has eloped in earnest.

The Tribune Farmer

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